

## Message Text

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ORIGIN H-03

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DRAFTED BY H:TMPATIN  
APPROVED BY H:DTKENNEY  
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S/NM: MR. LINNEMAN  
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CODELS WOLFF/MANN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP

SUBJECT: CODELS WOLFF/MANN

PEKING FOR CHAIRMAN LESTER L. WOLFF:  
BANGKOK FOR MESSRS. NELLIS AND LAWRENCE:

1. MR. DAVID PICKENS OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON NARCOTICS  
HAS ASKED THE DEPARTMENT TO TRANSMIT THE FOLLOWING  
MESSAGE AND NEWS ARTICLE TEXT TO CHAIRMAN WOLFF IN  
PEKING; INFO MESSRS. NELLIS AND LAWRENCE IN BANGKOK.

2. BEGIN MESSAGE: QUOTE: WHITE HOUSE SOUTH FLORIDA  
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DRAFT REPORT APPEARED FRONT PAGE MIAMI HERALD TODAY  
JULY 6, 1978. LEE DOGALOFF CALLED TO INDICATE REPORT  
LEAKED FROM UNKNOWN EXECUTIVE SOURCE. COPY FOLLOWS.  
HEADLINE: U.S. READIES DRUG ATTACK ON S. FLORIDA.  
TOM FIEDLER, HERALD WASHINGTON BUREAU. UNQUOTE.

BEGIN TEXT: QUOTE: WASHINGTON -- A WHITE HOUSE PLAN

FOR AN ATTACK AGAINST DRUG TRAFFIC FLOWING INTO SOUTH FLORIDA CALLS FOR BEEFED-UP EFFORTS BY AGENCIES RANGING FROM THE NAVY TO THE FBI, THE HERALD HAS LEARNED.

QUOTE: THE PLAN TO DISRUPT THE QUOTE SEVERAL BILLION DOLLARS-A-YEAR UNQUOTE DRUG BUSINESS IS CONTAINED IN A CONFIDENTIAL WHITE HOUSE MEMORANDUM.

QUOTE: THE ASSAULT ON DRUG TRAFFICKING WOULD INVOLVE NEW OR INCREASED PARTICIPATION OF AGENCIES SUCH AS THE NAVY, AIR FORCE, JUSTICE DEPARTMENT AND STATE DEPARTMENT.

QUOTE: ADDITIONALLY, THE WHITE HOUSE -- WHICH WOULD COORDINATE THE ATTACK UNDER PRESIDENTIAL SPECIAL ASSISTANT PETER BOURNE -- IS CALLING FOR INCREASED EFFORTS BY AGENCIES ALREADY INVOLVED, INCLUDING THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION, THE CUSTOMS SERVICE, THE COAST GUARD AND THE FBI.

QUOTE: THE WHITE HOUSE MEMORANDUM ALSO SAID ATTORNEY GENERAL GRIFFIN BELL HAS BEEN DIRECTED TO QUOTE ENCOURAGE MORE AGGRESSIVE BAIL AND SENTENCING POLICIES UNQUOTE AMONG FEDERAL JUDGES IN SOUTH FLORIDA.

QUOTE: IT SAID THE REPUTATION OF MAGISTRATES AND JUDGES LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FOR SUPPOSEDLY SETTING LOW BAIL AND AWARDED LENIENT SENTENCES TO DRUG DEALERS QUOTE IS A SIGNIFICANT FACTOR IN REDUCING THE DETERRENT EFFECT OF ARREST AND CONVICTION. UNQUOTE.

QUOTE: THE MEMORANDUM FURTHER INDICATES THAT SUBSEQUENT INVESTIGATIONS AND PROSECUTIONS WOULD FOCUS ON THE VAST, ILLEGAL PROFITS GENERATED BY THE NARCOTICS TRADE THAT FLOURISHES BETWEEN COLOMBIA AND THE UNITED STATES.

QUOTE: MUCH OF THAT MONEY GOES THROUGH SOUTH FLORIDA BANKS AND FREQUENTLY IS CHanneled INTO LEGITIMATE BUSINESSES, THE MEMO SAID.

QUOTE: THE CRACKDOWN, PARTS OF WHICH ALREADY HAVE BEGIN, (SIC) IS IN RESPONSE TO DEMANDS FROM THE HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON NARCOTICS THAT THE WHITE HOUSE BECOME ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN THE NOW-SPLINTERED EFFORT TO STEM THE FLOW OF ILLEGAL DRUGS -- AND THE MONEY SURROUNDING THEM -- THROUGH SOUTH FLORIDA.

QUOTE: REP. LESTER WOLFF (D. N.Y.), THE COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN, HAS SAID THE RAMPANT TRAFFICKING HAS TURNED THE STATE INTO A QUOTE NATURAL DISASTER AREA UNQUOTE THAT ONLY CAN BE RESCUED BY PRESIDENTIAL ACTION.

QUOTE: THE MEMORANDUM OBTAINED BY THE HERALD WAS PREPARED BY 3OURNE'S ASSISTANT, LEE DOGOLOFF (SIC) AND WAS DATED JUNE 30. IT IS BEING CIRCULATED AMONG HEADS OF THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION (DEA), CUSTOMS, COAST GUARD AND THE STATE DEPARTMENT FOR COMMENTS BEFORE BEING FORWARDED TO THE COMMITTEE LATER THIS MONTH.

QUOTE: A COVER LETTER NOTED THAT, BECAUSE QUOTE THE PRESIDENT HAS EXPRESSED INTEREST IN THIS PROJECT, WE PLAN TO RUN THIS (REPORT) BY HIM AND WAIT FOR OFFICIAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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RELEASE FOR ANOTHER TWO WEEKS. UNQUOTE.

QUOTE: MOST OF THE PROPOSED INITIATIVES CONTAINED IN THE MEMORANDUM HAD BEEN RECOMMENDED PUBLICLY BY HOUSE NARCOTICS MEMBERS AFTER HEARINGS INTO THE DRUG PROBLEMS OF SOUTH FLORIDA.

QUOTE: THE WHITE HOUSE PLAN, HOWEVER, CONTAINS SEVERAL NEW DETAILS REFLECTING THE MAGNITUDE OF THE PROPOSED ATTACK ON DRUG SMUGGLING. THE PROPOSAL CALLS FOR:

-- CREATION OF A CURRENCY-INVESTIGATION TASK FORCE HEADED BY CUSTOMS AGENTS IN MIAMI. THE TASK FORCE WOULD ATTEMPT TO BRING CHARGES AGAINST INDIVIDUALS OR BANKS SUSPECTED OF VIOLATING CURRENCY LAWS BY NOT REPORTING MAJOR CASH TRANSACTIONS THAT OFTEN FINANCE DRUG DEALS. THE DEA AND THE FBI ALREADY ARE INVOLVED IN SIMILAR INVESTIGATIONS.

-- IMPLEMENTATION OF A JUNE 21 AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE NAVY AND THE COAST GUARD TO TRACK DOWN SHIPS SUSPECTED OF CARRYING DRUGS FROM SOUTH AMERICA TO THE SOUTH EASTERN UNITED STATES. THE NAVY WOULD REPORT ALL SIGHTINGS OF SUSPECTED DRUG-SMUGGLING VESSELS TO THE COAST GUARD SO THEY COULD BE INTERCEPTED.

-- COMPLETION OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CUSTOMS SERVICE AND THE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT FOR THE USE OF FOUR T-39 JETS FOR SURVEILLANCE AND PURSUIT OF SMUGGLERS.

-- AN INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF DEA AGENTS AND CUSTOMS SERVICE INVESTIGATORS STATIONED IN COLOMBIA, WHERE MOST SHIPMENTS ORIGINATE. THE DEA FORCE WOULD GO FROM LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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EIGHT TO 13, WHILE THE CUSTOMS SERVICE WOULD BRING IN FOUR OFFICERS. THE CUSTOMS AGENTS WOULD PROVIDE TRAINING TO COLOMBIAN COUNTERPARTS AND GATHER INFORMATION ON CASH FLOWS RELATED TO DRUGS. BOTH PROVISIONS, HOWEVER, MUST BE ACCEPTED FIRST BY THE COLOMBIAN GOVERNMENT.

-- A SERIES OF DIPLOMATIC ARRANGEMENTS WITH COLOMBIA, ENABLING PROSECUTORS IN BOTH COUNTRIES TO SHARE INFORMATION ON SUSPECTED DRUG SMUGGLERS THAT WOULD LEAD TO ARRESTS. ALSO, THE COAST GUARD IS BOLSTERING ITS EFFORTS TO TRAIN COLOMBIAN MARITIME AGENCIES IN METHODS OF DETECTING AND INTERCEPTING ILLEGAL NARCOTICS SHIPMENTS FROM THAT COUNTRY.

-- THE ASSIGNMENT OF 15 ADDITIONAL SPECIAL DEA AGENTS TO THE MIAMI OFFICE TO ASSIST IN NEW CASES.

-- PLANS FOR OPENING NEW DEA OFFICES BY OCT. 1 IN NASSAU, PANAMA CITY AND FORT MYERS AND, EVENTUALLY, NEW CUSTOMS OFFICES IN FORT MYERS, CRYSTAL RIVER AND FORT PIERCE.

QUOTE: THE MEMORANDUM ALSO REVEALED PLANS FOR A QUOTE SPECIAL OPERATION UNQUOTE BY THE DEA, CUSTOMS AND COAST GUARD IN EARLY FALL TO INTERCEPT DRUG TRAFFIC. IT PROVIDED NO ELABORATION.

QUOTE: APPARENTLY THE WHITE HOUSE ALSO WILL PRESS FOR LEGISLATION TO REQUIRE INDIVIDUALS TO REPORT MAJOR CASH TRANSACTIONS IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES. THE MEMORANDUM CITED A BILL PROPOSED BY THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT LAST MONTH THAT WOULD REQUIRE SUCH REPORTING.

QUOTE: THE BILL ALSO WOULD ALLOW THE GOVERNMENT TO SEIZE ANY PROFITS MADE FROM DRUG TRANSACTIONS.

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QUOTE: THE WHITE HOUSE MEMORANDUM ALSO BACKED LEGISLATION THAT WOULD EMPOWER THE COAST GUARD TO ARREST ANY CITIZEN ON A SHIP IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS CARRYING QUOTE LARGE AMOUNTS OF ILLEGAL DRUGS. UNQUOTE.

QUOTE: THE MEMORANDUM INDICATED THAT THE WHITE HOUSE SHARES THE CONCERN OF SOME COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND THE

DEA OVER SENTENCING AND BAIL POLICIES OF MANY SOUTH  
FLORIDA FEDERAL JUDGES.

QUOTE: THE COMMITTEE HAD COMPLAINED THAT JUDGES IN THAT  
JURISDICTION WERE FAR MORE LENIENT THAN THEIR COL-  
LEAGUES ELSEWHERE IN DEALING WITH KNOWN OR SUSPECTED  
DRUG TRAFFICKERS.

QUOTE: BUT, BEYOND POINTING OUT THE DISCREPANCIES AND  
DIRECTING U.S. ATTORNEY JACK ESKENAZI OF MIAMI TO SEEK  
HIGHER BONDS, THE WHITE HOUSE AND CONGRESS ARE VIRTUALLY  
POWERLESS TO CHANGE THE BAIL OR SENTENCING PROCEDURES.  
END QUOTE. END TEXT. VANCE

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